





# THE CHINA MAIL.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, 10th MAY, 1866.

## DEATHS.

At Hongkong, on the 4th May, 1866, JOHN BLANKET, clerk to Lane Crawford & Co., aged 21 years.  
At Hongkong, on the 6th May, ANDREW BANKOFF, aged 45 years, (of Varolia).  
At the Government Civil Hospital, Hongkong, on the 2nd May, late Barman at the British Hotel, (of Varolia).  
At Bombay, on the 11th April, 1866, ROBERT FRANK, 1st MENT, aged 60 years, (late of China).

## EROHES OF THE WEEK.

Report of the murder of Mr MORRISON between Hankow and Peking—Chinese steamer sunk—Pirates off the Volcanoes—Victory gained by Wen Seang—Hankow—Races at Peking and Kiukiang—Tea Clippers—Disease in Hongkong—State of the weather—Hongkong gunboats—The opening of the mint.

By the Singapore which arrived from Shanghai on Monday last, we hear the following, which if true is startling intelligence:—

Chefoo advises confirm the rumours received via Hankow some weeks ago, to the effect that Mr M. G. Morrison was murdered while on his way from Peking to Hankow overland. Our correspondent considers that the report still requires confirmation, although the native officials appear to believe it.

This is taken from the Shanghai Daily News, which is apparently inclined to treat the affair as a *canard*, as no lengthened comment is made on the subject.

Mr Morrison, the gentleman referred to, has been consul at Chefoo, and is a son of the late Dr Morrison the compiler of the well known Chinese Dictionary bearing his name. As the native officials appear to believe the report of Mr Morrison's murder, it is evident that they have sources of information as regards the affair of which nothing is as yet known, and unless strong measures are taken to find out the truth, the mandarins will shirk the responsibility of discovering and punishing the perpetrators of the murder. It is a curious fact, considering the amount of wisdom which is supposed to attach to British diplomacy and legislation, that these "Treaty rights," which is quite as much a stock cry in China as it is in England, are in such an anomalous position. To any resident in China whose intellect is not weakened by attempting the feat of being a Chinese scholar, and whose judgement is not warped by the teaching and example of that extensive class who may be called Chinophiles, with as much propriety as the Exeter Hallites are called Negrophiles, it is very apparent that "Treaty rights" are interpreted in China in a delightfully one-sided manner. The slightest infringement of Treaty regulations by British subjects, even although such infringement breaks no moral obligation, or injures any public or private interests, is by mutual consent of the authorities on both sides, visited with prompt punishment. On the other hand although the Chinese government are bound to afford protection to all British subjects travelling in China on legitimate pursuits, the fact that this obligation is universally shirked and disregarded, is too patent to admit of any argument. This failure of the Chinese government to perform their share of treaty obligations, is defended, or rather excused by the admirers and advocates of the Chinese character and government, by the old complaint that the latter is too weak, and the country too distracted, for the mandarins to be able to carry out the terms of the treaty. This is the very argument in a circle which is one of the moral gymnastic feats in which the Exeter Hall party so much excel. Because Britain is strong she must see that her subjects do not offend, even if their offence in a civil and moral point of view is no offence at all. Again because Britain is strong she must not use her strength to compel Chinese, Hindoos, negroes, or any race who are her inferiors in civilization, intelligence, or moral integrity, to perform the most simple obligations or conform to the diplomatic usages of Western nations. As long as England confines herself to expostulations and "dispatch" diplomacy nothing is said, but let John Bull get his temper up and use the whip and "pitch into" the black or yellow hides of "poor unenlightened pagans" for the commission of some senseless and brutal crimes, or the insolent repudiation of solemn treaties and obligations, when at once a howl of horror and indignation arises and "might against right," "India over again," "retrogressive policy," form stock subjects for the platform oratory of Exeter Hall.

A steamer belonging to the local mandarin has sunk opposite the Kiangnan arsenal at Shanghai; probably the mandarin with the mechanical genius, who some time ago made a steamer and launched her complete in every respect—paddle boxes, shaft and funnel—but with the slight and unimportant omission of engines, which he had forgotten entirely, has been experimenting upon the unlucky craft.

A Shanghai steamer reports having seen a Chinese merchant junk engaged with pirates off the Volcanoes; the pirate junk on the approach of the steamer, ran into shallow water, on which the merchant junk was taken in tow and conveyed to Shanghai.

The following from our Northern files will also be interesting:—

Private letters from Peking inform us that a peculiar kind of diphtheria has become very prevalent at the capital, and large numbers have already fallen victims to it. The new American legation will shortly be completed, and will probably be in readiness for Mr Burlingame on his arrival.

Wen Seang has gained an important victory in the neighbourhood of Moukden, and is expected to return in a few months to Peking.

This great victory no doubt has been gained by the assistance of the *parvenue* mandarins, who, as reported some time ago, were being created in large batches out of the chiefs of the robber bands which infested the province. Truly if we cannot give the Chinese credit for much bravery or honesty, this scheme of transforming enemies into friends at the slight expense of a few glass buttons, and the privilege of squeezing the poor country people round, which being a Chinese "custom" is time honoured, and respected by the *squeezed* and *squeezers* indiscriminately, is a bright stroke of policy, and worthy of the ape-like cunning and "shiftlessness" of the Peking government. As this Wen Seang seems an able man, on that very account it is probable that jealousy will soon be excited against him, and he may be supplanted by some useless opium smoking old humbug; and then the old spasmodic breaks out of revolution will flourish with increasing vigor, and the whole work will have to be commenced again.

From Hankow we hear that the terror of the Nienfei and their ravages have made so deep an impression upon the country people that a report that some of these wretches had returned over the Honan frontier to the district of Maching, made some villagers only twelve or ten miles distant from Hankow rush within the walls of Hankow again for protection. The foreign community however seem to treat the report as not worthy of belief, no particular preparations being made for any irritation of the Nienfei. Another Taotai, Tseng-Kuo-tseuen, brother of the great Kwo-fan, is appointed to the province but is delayed in Honan by bad health. The illustrious general Pao has returned from a successful campaign against the Nienfei, Taipings, and his own revolted braves that had entered the Kwangtung province.

Peking and Kiukiang, have been holding their usual race meetings; in cities and ports where the foreign community is so limited, races must be an event indeed, and as eagerly looked forward to, as a schoolgirl's first ball and ball dress.

The Tea Clippers will soon commence loading the new season's teas at Foochow, and the disturbances which it was reported had taken place near the tea districts, seem not to have interfered in any way with the tea picking.

Our obituary column will show that the change of weather, and the sultriness and oppression of the atmosphere, have had their effects during the past week. Cases of small pox seem most alarmingly on the increase; several have died of it during the past week. It is to be hoped that we shall soon have a good heavy fall of rain, which with a thunder storm or two would clear the air wonderfully. We have heard no accounts of the state of the small pox patients at Stanley; the change of air has no doubt had a very beneficial effect.

In home papers we see that it has been decided that half the military contribution (£10,000) is to be devoted to the cost of maintaining gunboats for the suppression of piracy; this is all very well, but have we any guarantee that we shall get more gunboat service than we have now? It seems to us that the cost of maintaining the two or three rotten old steam bathing machines dignified by the name of gunboats, (and which being rotten cost all the more to keep going at all) will be largely increased, without any extra efficiency in the suppression of piracy. It is not Hongkong which ought to pay £10,000 per annum for such a service, but all the Chinese provincial authorities on the coast, who must, in conjunction with the "Sun of Heaven," and his advisers be highly amused at our doing work which the Chinese government ought to do itself. This state of things there is no reason to hope will be altered; the ignorance of people at home with respect to China is ludicrous though often annoying. An amusing example of this appeared in a leading London paper received by last mail; a short paragraph of two lines headed "China," is all it has to say about a country of 300 millions of inhabitants; it simply states that "the whole country was peaceful and the rebel leader taken." This is of course very instructive to us, being both terse and laconic, but perhaps the compactness of the information is rather marred by the want of a little particularisation, and a trifle more knowledge of the subject; for we in Hongkong are not aware that the "whole country" is peaceful, neither are we aware that the rebels consist of one band, and have, and have had, only one leader, who is thus summarily disposed of by our London contemporary.

Since our last issue a most important event in the history of the Colony has taken

place. On Monday last, the Hongkong Mint was formally opened by His Excellency Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL; only a few privileged individuals were present, among whom the members of the press were not forgotten, who received every facility for information. LADY MACDONNELL herself coined the first dollar, after which the Governor and some of the gentlemen present tried their hands at a few, for which Mexicans were eagerly exchanged as mementoes of the opening ceremony. The great difficulty at present seems to be the "getting up," as it is termed of the milling, which from specimens before us, appears to be very defective; and without wishing to be depreciative the impression on the mind of an impartial examiner would be that an ounce of powder had been run into a mould, which would account for the peculiarly *brummeum* look of the new coins. This deficiency we hear will be soon remedied, when the stamping machinery has been properly got up to the mark. It is to be devoutly hoped that this hitch about the milling may be rectified, for as the Chinese will no doubt give up the idea of counterfeiting the new dollar, when they find they can't engrave the Queen's head, they will try the old, but very ingenious dodge of splitting the dollars, scooping out the silver, and filling the vacancy with pewter or brass, and if the milling is not better got up than in the dollars now coined, any one with a fine file, a small vice, a little emery pounder, and a slight mechanical turn, can easily counterfeit it. This Chinese coiners will readily accomplish after the scooping process, and the soldering of the two halves together. Some of the mint machinery has already come to grief; one of the large driving wheels of the rolling presses having flown into three pieces, from the sudden strain caused by the breaking of one of the driving bands, which it appears were made of English leather, which will not stand the hot weather without cracking. This break down prevents the whole issuing power of the mint being exerted, at any rate for a time, until a new wheel can be made; this will not however prevent a good supply of dollars being kept up, as the machinery available is able to turn out some thousands of dollars per diem. Two millions of dollars in specie, bullion, and specie, are already awaiting coining, so that for the present, at least there is plenty of grist to the mill. In spite of croakers, the Hongkong mint intends to be a success, and after the few little difficulties incidental to the use of new machinery, and dies are overcome, we hope that our Hongkong dollar may compare favourably as to workmanship, (we cannot say design) with the English florin, which is decidedly the most artistic coin ever struck.

As regards the design of the new dollar, a few remarks may be pertinent. The portrait of Her Majesty is good, and has apparently been copied from the dies of the new bronze coinage at home. The distrust which may arise among the Chinese with respect to the change incident to the death of the reigning British sovereign, led many advocates to argue that some fixed inscription or design, such as a dragon the Imperial emblem of China, should be substituted for the effigy of the reigning monarch. This we think deserves more consideration than it has received at the hands of the authorities who had the selection of the design; for although it might be a *sine qua non* that the new coin should bear some emblem of the British monarchy on one of its faces, yet we imagine that if the new dollar bore on one side a dragon and on the other a crown in the centre with an inscription round the edge, the design would be more likely to take among the Chinese. This is of course however only a matter of taste, but admitting Her Gracious Majesty's portrait to be the correct thing, who in the name of everything barbarous invented the "smoking cap braid" looking design which is impressed on the obverse face of the coin, which is so faintly cut on the die that a few months wear will obliterate it— which in the interests of art is perhaps to be devoutly desiderated.

The rumored assassination of Mr M. G. MORRISON, late Her Majesty's Consul at Chefoo on his journey from Peking to Hankow, will again direct public attention to the state of affairs in China, so far as the powers of the native government to carry out the stipulations of the treaty are concerned. The murder of one individual (should this and piece of news turn out to be true) does not necessarily imply bad faith on the part of the government officials, even though the victim be one occupying a high position. But be the rumour true or false, the credence attached to it by residents in the North is a significant fact. In the approaching debates on various circumstances connected with our policy in China, it is to be hoped that matters will be thoroughly ventilated, and the absurdity of our present policy exposed. At present we occupy

neither the position of masters, equals or servants vis-a-vis the Chinese officials, but a ludicrous combination of all three, which excites at one the dislike and contempt of the great mass of the people composing the vast empire under pigtailed rule.

Let us endeavour to point out how far we are justified by facts in making this assertion, and then proceed to a consideration of what portions of our present treaty require modification. In the first place let us see over what portion of the empire our representatives Consular and Diplomatic exercise a real influence. Commencing with Peking we admit the undoubted influence exercised over the Imperial Government by foreign representatives; it then becomes a question as to how far its influence extends over the whole of the Empire. This may be stated to be absolute over the Provinces of Chihli, Shanxi, and Shantung; nearly so over Shensi, Honan, and Kiangsu; over Shinking, which lies immediately next Chihli its authority over the inhabitants is less than in most other parts of the Empire; while throughout the remaining eleven provinces and the whole of Mongolia and Tibet, it is solely and entirely of force so far as the viceroys, and other officials choose so to make it. It is true that they are absolutely responsible with their lives for a proper administration of their power to the Central government, but that is and will be of little avail to control the lawless element of the population in their individual treatment of foreigners. The population which thus remains unaffected in opinion by the acts of the Cabinet may be stated as not far short of one hundred and fifty millions of human beings, whose prevailing notion respecting foreigners is that they coerced and grievously injured the dignity of the occupant of the Dragon throne, and that all possible hostility should therefore be displayed to them when met with, if practicable and safe; that we do not venture into the interior is generally ascribed to the fear of meeting with too warm a reception, and their dislike and contempt thus continues unabated.

To prove our point we will take but one or two examples, which isolated as they are, nevertheless are of great authority having been furnished by the members of the Peking Government themselves. When H.M. Consul at Newchwang desired in 1864 to proceed overland to Peking he was warned officially that he did so at his own risk and danger. When two gentlemen in the Indian Army desired in 1863 passports to visit Tibet, they were refused by the Chinese on the score of their being able to exercise no efficient control over the inhabitants of the provinces, through which they must needs pass; while Captain BLAKISTON with his party in 1861, was obliged to return without accomplishing the object in view at starting—that of penetrating into Tibet—on account of disturbances in the west, which no official protection or "Treaty rights" rendered it prudent to show oneself in the way of.

We cannot reasonably find any fault with the lack of power possessed by the Chinese government entered into by them under coercion. A stipulation so hopelessly impracticable should never have been made unless we were both prepared to enforce its execution, and at the same time afford aid to the Chinese in the event of our finding that power more than will was wanting on their part; but this is only one of the many ways in which China fails from sheer impotence to act up the engagements she has made. How far has the engagement been carried out to aid in the suppression of piracy? How much protection has been afforded to native Christians who at this moment in the face of the express stipulation that they shall not be liable to any punishment or persecution for professing the Christian faith, are prohibited from being employed in the service of the state except in a menial capacity, which to Chinese is often a severe punishment? How much protection is afforded to Missionaries, who are liable to be stoned on making their appearance in the interior? And lastly to quote a very modern instance, what steps were taken to enforce the severe and immediate punishment which should have fallen on those who at Chao-chow-fu stoned a British Consul and Interpreter, but a short time since?

Such being the present evidences of the weakness of the Chinese Government, some modification of our present policy is surely needed. It is not now a question of sentiment as to the advisability of enforcing the rights we have obtained from the Chinese at the point of the sword. That they must be enforced is evident, but let us cease the gigantic sham and diplomatic cant involved in treating the unfortunate members of the central government as dishonest politicians who cannot keep their agreements, while it is evident to the most superficial observer that supposing their will to do so to be tenfold what it is, they have no possible means at present of enforcing it. Let us by all means have the concurrence of that government in the acts we perform but let us act for ourselves. No doubt a few more soldiers would be necessary to carry out such a policy, which would involve in

the first place a proceeding similar to that by which we cleared the thirty mile radius round Shanghai. Let us visit with instant and signal chastisement any infringement of treaty rights in any part of the Empire by ourselves dealing with the offenders, and in less than ten years foreigners would be at liberty to travel in perfect safety in any part of China proper. The Imperial Government would cordially co-operate in such a scheme, and due care might be taken to compel them to act under the eyes of our own officials, backed as they should be by some tangible demonstration of force. Let our treaties be so modified as to withdraw from the shoulders of the Chinese a series of engagements which they could not if they would, and very probably would not if they could, carry out; and in place of them substitute agreements, that on due requisition every aid should be afforded both by money and men to our ships and our troops when engaged in enforcing engagements which they are powerless to make respected by their ill-disposed subjects.

We have engaged in long and expensive wars simply to find ourselves in this position. Our recourse to force has earned for us the opposition of the peace-at-any-price party at home, the dislike of the great mass of the natives of China and the jealousy of European powers. While after all that has been done we find that one Consul may be stoned with impunity; another may be murdered; while a third receives an insolent despatch from the Taotai of a city (as Shanghai) which the government of the empire disavowed while neglecting to punish its author. At some of the treaty ports it is not safe to venture ten miles from the settlement without danger to life and limb. At Newchwang the Consul's position is often utterly set at naught. At Hankow the robbers of the neighbourhood threaten the very lives of foreign residents.

One of the most invidious acts committed, and which has much tended to complicate affairs with local authorities was that of Mr WADSWORTH giving way on the concession question. Doubtless some of the enlightened and comparatively civilized officials of Peking appreciated his motives, but the effect of his yielding has been but too visible in the conduct of the local Mandarins. When they once understood that the land occupied by foreigners was still under Chinese jurisdiction, their respect for the power which took it from them gave way to contempt for the feeble and shortsighted policy which gave it back. When the concessions were first marked out, the impression of the Chinese was undoubtedly that they were *ceded* to us. By degrees they learnt that the fear of the Exeter Hall party was driving our government to the avowal that the "concessions" were not "concessions" at all, and the cunning celestials immediately took advantage of the new light which thus dawned upon them. It has been well said that England loses often more by her diplomacy than she gains by her arms. That the saying be not verified in this case, it is the business all interested in our position in China to make efforts to prevent.

(From the Evening Mail.)

THERE are times when an expression of opinion on some current topic of the day by the conductors of a journal is absolutely called for. It is assumed by readers and urged by friendly or antagonistic writers in other journals that a neglect to do so, means either an unwillingness to enter into an argument from conscious weakness, or arises from a fear of offending those whose views they generally endorse and represent.

Our contemporary the *Daily Press* put forth an article on Monday last, the challenge conveyed to us in which, seems to require an answer for the reasons above shown—or more strictly speaking for the second reason named. We have already disavowed in language sufficiently strong to satisfy the minds of most of our readers the fact of being the "organ" of any department of the service, further than the application to us of that term is warranted by the circumstance that our own columns contain copies of Government notices, which the fates, or the Gods, or the powers that be, have denied to our large paper contemporary. It is however we all know useless endeavouring to convince a man against his will, for as the old couplet says, such an one "is of the same opinion still." We therefore comfort ourselves with the moral conveyed by the very old "Joe Miller" in which the Navy when asked why he let his wife beat him replied; "It amuses her and it don't hurt me." In other words we do not feel personally insulted at being called the "organ" even of the Canton or any other Consulate.

Had we as our contemporary implies, defended on all grounds the confiscation of the *Prince Albert*, we might pause before accepting the challenge which is so obviously put forth like the red flag in the

Spanish arena to induce us bull-like to rush forward regardless of danger, and assail the arguments of our ingenious friend. It unfortunately (for him) happens however that in our issue of the 23d ultimo we put forth views which though less strongly worded, bear a remarkable resemblance to those expressed by himself. We will quote the paragraphs we refer to, as it is obvious that our contemporary has either not read our remarks on what he terms "this discreditable business," or has very needlessly asked a question to find an answer to which, required only a reference to the files of the *Evening Mail*.

"That in strict law the *Prince Albert* was liable to the penalty which has thus been enforced, there are no grounds for denying. But strong hopes were entertained that the tacit permission which vessels had apparently enjoyed to make their appearance at various points along the West Coast, so long as no trade was carried on, would have had some weight in lightening the very heavy punishment with which the indiscretion of the owner or master of the vessel has been visited."

"Although the wording of the Treaty article with respect to ports not open to trade, prohibits vessels from resorting thither, and thus renders it a punishable offence to be found therein under any circumstances short of the most absolute state of distress. It is nevertheless obvious that the intention of those who framed the article in question was simply to prohibit trade in general, but smuggling more especially in such localities."

"Now no assertion is made of there having been any smuggling attempted on the part of the master of *Prince Albert*; his sole offence was being in an unlawful position on the China coast with his vessel, and, although he most undoubtedly rendered himself amenable to all penalties made and provided for infringement of Treaty law, it does seem hard that an act similar to others which have so long been committed with impunity, as to lead to the belief that no objection thereto existed in the minds of the Chinese, should be visited so heavily."

"The fact that the Chinese themselves have so long permitted irregularities of this kind, is in itself some slight justification of offenders, while it reflects extreme discredit on the want of vigilance displayed by the provincial Government. Our readers will naturally ask, 'How could they be expected with their wretched junks to do anything of the sort?' to which we reply in an Irish manner by asking two questions in return. If the Chinese *can* guard their own rights and *will not*, are they not to be censured for their neglect of duty? If they *cannot*, why keep up the wretched farce of treating China as an independent nation? \* \* \* Neglect on the part of the Authorities has led to impunity on the part of offenders, whose offences are thus the results of official negligence."

We will now quote from the remarks of our ingenious contemporary. To most persons they would seem a plagiarism from our own, with a somewhat more forcible style of expression.

"It seems that when seized, she (the *Prince Albert*) was not engaged on any trading expedition whatever. She had been chartered by a Chinese merchant to go down the West Coast and tow a disabled junk to Whampoa. She had been looking out for the vessel, had not been able to find her, and had put into the nearest bay with the view of obtaining some information concerning the whereabouts of the vessel which required her help."

"To regard him as guilty of a breach of treaty obligations in sending his vessel on such an errand as this, when for years the whole coast has been abandoned by the Chinese authorities, and trade with it has become a common, and all but recognised practice, is cruelly unjustifiable."

"It has been said that the confiscation may be justified by the letter of the treaty, but even this may be doubted, while it is certainly opposed to the spirit of the clause under which it has been made. This clause is the 47th of the Treaty of Tientsin, which says:—

"British merchant vessels are not entitled to resort to other than the ports of trade declared open by this treaty. They are not lawfully to enter other ports in China, or to carry on clandestine trade along the coast thereof. Any vessel violating this provision, shall with her cargo be subject to confiscation by the Chinese Government."

"In quoting this clause we have brought forward the strongest argument which can be alleged against our own view of the case but though the clause might justify the confiscation of the *Prince Albert* if she had been engaged in any iniquitous proceedings—supplying arms to the rebels or so forth,—it leaves many loopholes through which the Consul might have escaped if he had any good feeling towards the British vessel in this quarrel. The *Prince Albert* was not trading at all and this might have made to exempt her from the operation of the treaty."

"That reference to 'cargo' which is to be confiscated together with the vessel shows that only vessels carrying cargo were in the thoughts of the 'ministers' by whom the treaty was drawn up."

We think that the above extracts will sufficiently shew what amount of difference exists in the opinion of the whole transaction entertained by our contemporary and ourselves. But we consider that the former has not acted in a candid spirit

in thus implying that we rush forward regardless of danger, and assail the arguments of our ingenious friend. In our previous issue we had been guilty of conduct had been guilty of even if in the opinion of others, mistaken motives we now reiterate. The letter of the treaty a formed his official du on opinion implying th on his part was uncali

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regard him as guilty of a breach obligations in sending his vessel on an errand as this, when for years the coast has been abandoned by these authorities, and trade with it come a common, and all but recognition, is cruelly unjustifiable."

has been said that the confiscation justified by the letter of the treaty, in this may be doubted, while it is opposed to the spirit of the clause which it has been made. This clause 7th of the Treaty of Tientsin, which

merchant vessels are not entitled to other than the ports of trade open by this treaty. They are lawfully to enter other ports in China to carry on clandestine trade along that coast. Any vessel violating this provision, shall with her cargo be confiscated by the Chinese Government.

quoting this clause we have brought in the strongest argument which can be urged against our own view of it, though the clause might justify the confiscation of the *Prince Albert* if she were engaged in any iniquitous proceeding—supplying arms to the rebels or—it leaves many loopholes through which the Consul might have escaped if any good feeling towards the British was not trading at all and this have made to exempt her from the

reference to "cargo" which is to be attached together with the vessel that only vessels carrying cargo in the thoughts of the "ministers by the treaty was drawn up."

think that the above extracts will amply show what amount of difference exists in the opinion of the whole nation entertained by our contemporaries and ourselves. But we consider that former has not acted in a candid spirit

in thus implying that we defended on any other than technical grounds, the confiscation. In our previous article we expressed our conviction that Mr Robertson's conduct had been guided by honorable, even if in the opinion of ourselves and others, mistaken motives, and that statement we now reiterate. He acted up to the letter of the treaty and in so doing performed his official duty. We expressed no opinion implying that a remonstrance on his part was uncalled for.

But we have yet a little more to say on the remark made by the *Daily Press* that "it is impossible to suppose for a moment that the Chinese were acting in good faith in seizing the vessel." It is always unfortunate when a writer states an opinion respecting any subject of this nature, while ignorant of the true facts of the case, which we must presume the author of the article in question to have been. Is he aware what instructions were given to the commander of the *Pootung* on leaving Canton? Does he know that she left to capture? If possible another vessel which it was well known had long eluded the efforts of the Chinese to catch *Agarwa's delicto*? Was he also informed that the vessel in question having got wind of the kind intentions of the Chinese "abandoned," as our American friends say, in good time, and that "the sportsman who thought to bag a pigeon returned with a crow," viz, the unlucky *Prince Albert*, which was found within a few miles of the spot where the richer and more knowing prize should have been but was not? Under such circumstances it is difficult to maintain the charge of bad faith brought against the Chinese.

As to the question so speciously put, Why cannot the *Pootung*, this gallant sea rover, make a raid amongst the junks which hover round the entrances to the Ly-ee-moon and the Lema Channel? an easy answer is at hand. "Because she is not sufficiently well armed." Her predecessor the *Cumfa* has three times been put to flight by heavily armed pirates, and the *Pootung* could no more fight a junk mounting twelve 32 pounders than the junk could engage a corvette of the *Scylla's* size and metal. Moreover our contemporary's remark on the effects of the study of Chinese of Consular brains is unfortunate in this instance. Her Majesty's Consul at Canton laying no claim to the acquisitions of a sinologue.

In conclusion we would add that our own remarks have certainly not tended to advise a truckling policy to Chinese officials. We nevertheless hold that so long as a treaty agreement remains in force it should be held to at disadvantage to ourselves, but we have also constantly urged that many of these agreements suited to nations of somewhat equal position and civilization, are quite inadmissible between a superior and inferior race. Meantime we demand fair play from those who while endorsing our views, imply that they and not we, were the first to uphold them.

At event, the importance of which to the Colony of Hongkong can scarcely be overrated by the Community took place this morning. The Hongkong mint was formally opened for the public service by His Excellency the Governor; though the desirability of avoiding the great disturbance to work which would have necessarily ensued, had the general public been admitted rendered it advisable that His Excellency's visit should be rather of a private than a public nature.

By the courtesy of Sir R. Macdonnell we are in a position to describe the semi-official ceremony of ushering into light the first legal Hongkong dollar. His Excellency and Lady Macdonnell, Mr Mercer and Lieut. Stewart arrived at the mint about 11 A.M. Captain Kinder the Superintendent of the Mint then proceeded to show the Governor and party the details of the various processes by which the white metal received in the shape of ingots, used up dollars, and, in one case, at least a service of plate, became fashioned into that as yet rare and coveted article a Hongkong dollar.

They were first of all taken to the bullion room where apocryphic tale bags were piled in layers each filled with a certain amount of the old and ill used Spanish currency. In pigeon holes made to receive them, were large and heavy ingots, some of pure metal and some of melted up Mexican or Spanish dollars. The total value of bullion and dollars received for recoining up to the present date amounts to \$2,000,000 (Two million of dollars) so the energetic master of the

mint is not likely have his hands empty for some little time. From the bullion room Captain Kinder led his visitors to the smelting room, where in some dozen furnaces each at an intense heat, but so ingeniously built that the temperature was anything but as warm as might have been expected, silver shoes of large and unsightly masses of silver are reduced by being passed through three powerful machines, into ribbons of the necessary thickness for punching therefrom the round silver counters which ultimately form dollars. It was in this room that the accident occurred a short time since, which threatened to seriously cripple the mechanical powers of the establishment; a large cast iron cog wheel some nine feet in diameter having fractured at its periphery into three pieces. Fortunately no one was hurt on this occasion, but while admitting and cordially admiring the beautiful machinery fitted for the purposes of the establishment, we may be permitted to point out one or two defects of detail, which if not amended may someday result in serious accident to the employees if not in a total and lengthened stoppage of the coining machinery. In the first place, duplicates of all parts of the machinery are urgently wanted. The enormous cogwheels used to transmit motive power to the heavy rolling machines are all cast with iron cogs; he fracture of a single cog may not only damage the machine most seriously, but also endanger human life, and we cannot see what reason there is for neglecting to adopt the hard wood cogs in use for the multiplying gear of screw steamers, as for rolling presses regularity of action is not of such supreme importance as for other machines. Secondly some means ought to be adopted for stopping the engine in less than it now takes; at present the only means of checking the revolution of the immense and massive flywheel is to reverse the steam; but any one acquainted with locomotive machinery is aware how long a time it takes to overcome the momentum of a heavy moving mass travelling at a speed of something like 60 miles an hour. Breaks might easily be applied which would effect the desired object. With this slight digression we return to His Excellency's visit.

After leaving the rolling room Sir Richard and Lady Macdonnell proceeded to the stamping room where the round dumps of silver receive the obverse and reverse impression which creates them into dollars. A dump having been banded to Lady Macdonnell she placed it in one of the stamping machines and the first LEGAL DOLLAR was coined in Hongkong.

The dies cannot be considered Masterpieces of the die sinkers art. In beauty of appearance the New Hongkong dollar is considerably inferior to the florin or even the old half crown. It is thought however that the dies will give more perfect impressions after being a short time in use, and that such will be the case must be hoped. The present stamp being shallow and deficient in sharpness will soon be obliterated by the continual process of shroffing. The milling also is anything but good; it can be easily counterfeited by the simple mechanism of a file, and an ordinary amount of ingenuity which Chinese *smashers* have most decidedly proved that they possess, imitated. Possibly however these defects in the new coins may be owing to a slight want of adjustment in the machines—an error which practice alone can correct.

Before leaving the building His Excellency and the party visited the assay room, which is by no means the least interesting portion of the building; two modes of assay are in use. The French mode, in which the silver to be tested is dissolved in nitric acid and precipitated by a solution of common salt in water, the turbidity or clearness of the liquid remaining being an evidence of the presence of alloy or the absolute purity of the metal treated; the other method being by melting in a small furnace; the subsequent steps being the same as those adopted at the London mint.

Too much praise cannot be accorded to the general arrangements of the mint or the intelligence of those to whom its arrangements and working are intrusted. Great care seems to have been taken to render it as secure from robbery as it can be in a colony owning rascals of so ingenious a turn of mind as the Chinese. In addition to a regular guard of European troops quartered in the building a gunboat has been moored off the side fronting the harbour,

and we are furthermore authorized to publish the following statement of the arrangements which have been made to secure immediate assistance in case of an open attack being made on the building.

The following signals have been arranged in case of an attack being made on the Mint. The Gunboat at the Mint to show a blue light and fire a rocket on any attempt being made or alarm given of an attack, this signal to be repeated by H.M.S. *Princess Charlotte*, which will fire a gun towards the shore; the sentry placed in front of McGregor's Barrack, would thereupon give an immediate alarm, when a Piquet composed of 2 Officers and 53 N. C. O. and men (previously warned for the duty), would turn out as rapidly as possible and proceed at once to the Mint; a similar party would also get under arms and follow, from Fletcher's Barracks. The Guard stationed until assistance arrived, and it is to be presumed also that the Police would not be idle meanwhile.

So extensive an influence will naturally be hereafter exerted by Hongkong over the money market of the East, that the position of the Colony must be considerably improved vis-a-vis the dependencies of all nations in this part of the world. Moreover no better scheme could have well been devised whereby to introduce through a natural channel a more extensive use of coin in place of bullion throughout the Empire of China. When it is once found that foreigners are so unwilling to accept the latter, that the new coins possess advantages for purposes of trade superior to those offered by Sycee or the Spanish and other dollars the Chinese will readily learn to accept them at their just value. The success or non-success of the mint cannot be a doubtful question; either it will be a total success or a total failure. We hope and predict the former.

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hands of the Europeans, and from that time till recently a jealous and most complete exclusion has been exercised, and the ruling class has gained a power of despotism, exercised however, with a strict regard for the law, which has no parallel in any other government. The general feeling is that this government is of a double character, but later events have led us to suppose that though doubtless different to what it was at the expulsion of the Christians, it is still but one Emperor. This Emperor is supposed to be an extremely sacred character, and descended from the sun goddess is named the Mikado and resides at Kyoto (or Miako) situated a short distance from the Eastern end of the Inland Sea. His laws are irrevocable, his decision final; and though all the governing power is vested in the hands of the second ruler of the realm, the Teyoon, still no laws can be passed or become legal without the sanction of the spiritual head. The Teyoon hence somewhat resembles the prime minister, and is the only emperor recognized by the European treaties.

There appear to be only two classes in Japan: the governing class distinguished by wearing two swords and consisting of the Daimios and their retainers, and the governed comprising the traders, agriculturists, &c. In fact the Mikado of the people only permits to wear two swords, and however, wealthy or important these latter may be they are obliged to treat with the most abject respect even the lowest number of this most oligarchic aristocracy. And here lies the source of the troubles in Japan, and the strong feeling the Yalonnos or two sworded men have to the introduction of foreign customs: for they naturally fear that the foreign cotton and the twist may come in the dangerous doctrines of equality and freedom. So that the difficulties travellers meet with in Japan may be put down almost entirely to this fear lest the power should be wrested from their hands, and since every village has its staff of officials the difficulties of travel are rendered greater by the concealed or open opposition of some wretched little Yalonnos. The modes of conveyance are few, and in fact pedestrianism is the most popular mode of progression judging from the numbers of strong legged looking fellows you meet on every high road, but a species of palanquin called a *cango* is also much used, and when one is accustomed to its peculiar shape is by no means uncomfortable. It consists of a matted seat or floor of about three feet by two and half, suspended by a short bamboo at each corner of the rectangular base, the long pole by which the conveyance is carried one on the necks of two or more coolies as occasion requires. The general appearance of the *cango* is hence that of a square platform slung to a pole, the rear slings so to speak inclining back at an angle of about 60° and forming a resting place for the back of the sitter, while as the space is barely long enough even to sit down or it is necessary to sit crossed legs in Japanese style or allow the legs to dangle on either side, both of which positions are sufficiently trying to a novice. Still in taking long journeys over the rough Japanese roads, the *cango* is by no means to be despised as a conveyance, and as it is quite open on all sides, and protected from the sun by a sort of portable shade, which the bearers will change from side to side as best suited to guard against the heat of the sun, it is very cool and as soon as the rider gets into the way of sitting in it, it is quite a disagreeable mode of travelling. The *Daimio's* ride in *Nommons*, which resemble the Chinese "chair" more nearly than the *cango*, but even they are very cramped with neither room to sit or lie down in, and are simply large square boxes supported by a single pole at the top and neither so cool or so easily obtained as the commoner *cango*. Riding is of course at all times preferable to the roads, except one or two, which form the main highways through the entire country, are often mere footpaths and very rough. This however to the sure footed hardy little Japanese ponies is of no consequence, and they seem to treat with indifference roads almost impassable to an European horse. Their great drawback is their vicious propensities, and in kicking, biting, kicking, and general misbehaviour, the Japanese pony is probably unequalled, but on the other hand they have fair speed, great endurance and are very hardy. The *Battos* or *Grooms* are wonderful fellows and not only attend the horses on all occasions of travelling, but also provide forage, &c., which they change in their own wages. Of course this stipend is in the different parts and in the consequence more in Yokohama than in other parts. But we will treat of the prices, &c. in our account of each separate country. The only thing to be said further about native horse feed is that the "moms" given you are generally unsuited, but they rarely go lame and seem little affected by the roughest roads. We cannot conclude these preliminary remarks without a slight reference to the exchange for the dollar in Yokohama getting into greater circulation among the Japanese traders in the immediate neighbourhood of the settlement, it is comparatively unknown a few miles in the interior, and would not be accepted in payment of expenses incurred. The most general, and in fact the standard coin of the realm is the *itiboo* an oblong silver coin weighing about a quarter of an ounce, and intrinsically worth rather less than a third of a dollar, ports and coins of the same metal alloyed, and worth two *itiboo's*. This *tempo* is a large oval copper coin well "struck" and panned with a square hole in the center. There is another coin also called a "Nebbo," which is a gold coin very much alloyed and worth two *itiboo's*. Its size is much the same as the latter, but it is thinner. The only gold coinage is the *cobang* an oval coin, it represents 20 *itiboo's*, but formerly the *cobang* was not only much larger, but much purer and represented strange to say a smaller sum. This was of course owing to the greater proportion of gold than silver in the country, and the new *cobang* was struck by the government as a better representative of the sum in circulation. Still for all purposes of travel the *itiboo* is the most convenient and most generally used, and as these are supplied in government packets

with a government stamp of hundred each these *itiboo's* will be taken at about the payment of high sum. The lowest coin is the cash, but Europeans rarely deal with these as the tempo is small enough for ordinary purposes and far more convenient.

(To be continued.)

From our PARIS Correspondent.  
PARIS, 26th May, 1866.

The Corps Legislatif has had its principal annual meetings and has just finished the discussion of what it should say in reply to the Emperor's November speech, or rather what it should say *propos* or otherwise on the proposed address offered to it by the semi-official commission, formed within its own body. Of course nothing in any way material, was altered, that would be regarded as the subversion of order, as pure revolution, or as treason towards the government "founded on the principles of the great revolution." The debate was quite as animated and perhaps a little more business-like than usual which is to be attributed partly to an improvement arising out of the growing strength of the opposition, and partly to the conduct of the new President who seems inclined to be impartial, and does not indulge in those bits of smart impudence which his predecessor was so prodigal of, and which some called wit and others impudence.

The condition of the Agricultural population gave rise to a very warm debate, and no one could deny the fact that the agricultural population is in a state of increasing impoverishment while their numbers are diminishing. Perhaps the following summary by a deputy expresses nearly the exact truth:—"The causes are three; the diminution of the population, the want of capital, and the increase of taxation. The falling off in numbers is caused by the exaggerated state of the Army, the curtailment of 100,000 of the militia, the curtailment of the militia for exemption (110,000), the saturation towards the towns where the great mass of the capital of France is being sunk in demolitions and reconstructions. Since 1831 the rural population has diminished by about three millions." This is a fact and it is the most disastrous one that can be quoted; no other state in Europe exhibits such a sad state of things. And with this fact the want of capital in the country, we find a drain of money going out of the country in ten years caused by the speculators in foreign securities and operations who boast of their things as if they were not extracting the part of the frog in the fable in trying to cope with John Bull in grand operations. Increasing speculation, diminishing capital and a dwindling population form indeed a sad basis for the future. A great truth was I believe enunciated by the same speaker when he said:—"Commerce and industry are causing suffering but the wound will heal. But commercial liberty cannot yield all its fruits without political liberty. Give us good policy and we shall have good agriculture." This is one of those hidden truths which economists are generally blind to, and I may quote another of the same kind which is now being exemplified in France in a frightful manner, namely, that when a nation is without political life, its economic life is without vitality. When men cannot discuss, they indulge, and indulgence soon runs into vice, the mental stream is dammed and the corporeal breast all bounds. The government got rid of the subject by promising an enquiry—an official enquiry in which the opposition seems to have no confidence. People talk sometimes of the *viens* of France; they ignore facts altogether. France is nearly all agricultural, yet she has but 62 inhabitants per hectare, while England has 93, and Belgium 168; she has but 33 head of cattle per 100 hectares, while England has 99!

In the debate on public works the question of direct communication with China came up. A Deputy said that in consequence of subventions between the Messageries Impériales and the railway, the French markets are still ill-supplied with foreign merchandise. Thus the Silk of China arrives in London under better circumstances than even at Marseilles. Our Lyonsese manufacturers are compelled to go to London for Silk which has already passed their town on its road, and to bring it back from London to Lyons instead of getting it from Marseilles. The Minister of State said that the government imposed no tariff, but as all tariffs are imposed by the government the assertion requires explanation. Of course Mr. Rouher meant that nothing was said about railway rates in the contract of the Messageries Impériales. The same Minister admitted that the subvention to the Messageries was heavy, but said that the service was delicate and difficult. "As to Silk coming from China," he added, "we are for a long time the monopoly of the English trade; until last year the market for Raw Silk was entirely in England. It is only during the last eighteen months that efforts have been made to open direct communication with China; and these have been individual efforts." Again he added:—"It must not be forgotten that transport is the slave of competition, and it is very possible that the charges would only be reduced in case the English companies made concessions." In this liberty of commercial struggle it is not the duty of the state to interfere. "This is sound theory, but it must be remembered that every pound paid by the French government to the Messageries Impériales in excess of the rate paid by the British government to the P. & O. is a protection *pro tanto* and a very important one, which Frenchmen or rather the French Silk trade ought to be grateful for and about which Englishmen have no right to complain, and have only to work against the legitimate methods of enterprise. Perhaps the new China Steamers may help to prevent too much Silk going to Marseilles in French bottoms. I know that as regards all the facts of the case, your readers are far more au fait than I am, but they will like to know how matters are going in France and how French manufacturers and statesmen look at the subject. Some people in England have of late exhibited a vast amount of alarm on the Silk question; they should come here and see how little cause there is for it." As usual the question of the conduct of elections brought up some strange revelations; here is one.—M. Perrier of Epinay was *in* of the place and government candidates, and *presided personally over the election*; he was asked to which side he was leaning, and he replied that he was leaning towards the Prefect and read it then and there as *main*! These facts were all admitted by the Minister of State himself in the debate. Of course M. Perrier was elected, in fact he had elected himself; the case was examined by the Committee of the Corps Legislatif, who actually could find nothing

deserving of blame! The Minister was not quite so thick skinned; he admitted that it would have been better had the seat not taken place but he saw nothing to invalidate the election, which was consequently confirmed by the house. What a magnificent Universal Suffrage must be when the *maire* of a town can put himself, preside at his own election and instruct the electors officially at the same time. Can any other arrangement exhibit such marvellous success!

Of course the grand field day was that when the Ministry of the Interior, the liberty of the press, and of public meetings was under discussion. There were two amendments—a radical one, and one by the liberal Imperialists who think freedom is compatible with Napoleonism. The government met every demand with a negative; said, at one moment, that France had all the liberties and, at another, that the time was not come for them; the debate was well sustained, and the liberals got no less than 63 votes which proves that even Imperialists are getting a little impatient.

The whole address was finally voted by only 17 dissentient voices; it was to be before the last general election.

On the 22nd the deputies took the address to the Tuilleries when the Emperor made the usual speech in reply. The expressions do not reveal the Louis Napoleon of a few years since; they rather indicate a dangerously fallacious belief that France is satisfied and does not want any more liberty. Success seems to be doing its work on Napoleon III.

The Emperor has just done one popular act, he has ordered the Prefect to give them power to allow meetings for commercial purposes, provided there is no lurking fear of political intention in which case the matter is to be referred to the Minister of the Interior.

Another decree reads very oddly to English eyes. The government is about to give up the management of the Opera which is in future to be let to a Director like other theatres. The terms are to be as follows:—The Director to pay to the state 200,000 francs, must submit to all taxes and charges imposed by the government. The Emperor gives 250,000 a year out of the civil list in addition to the ordinary allowance by the state, but this sum is to be added to the caution money for the first five years. Such no government on the face of the earth ever mixed itself up for good or for evil, in such a strange manner with extra-governmental subjects.

Talking of theatres I may record an occurrence which happened the other night at the Odeon; a new piece by an admirable writer, Emile Augier was represented and the Emperor and Empress were present and there was nearly an awkward row. The students cannot stomach the demolition of their beautiful garden in the Luxembourg and the erection of another casino on the site, and they gave the Emperor a good five minutes of foot music accompanied with the simple word *Luxembourg*; the actors stood mutely looking at each other helplessly and you may suppose the Emperor was anything but amused. It is one of the broadest hints he has received and if the garden is not saved he is not the good tactician he was. When he left the theatre he was received in silence, by a dense crowd, so dense that his carriage could scarcely move although surrounded by an escort. Another curious effect has arisen out of this little episode; the paid claque of course roared and screamed for the police, against the students, and the author of the piece has exhibited his good sense by getting the abominable claque dismissed, so the rioters will now have it all their own way, and consequently, there will be no noise upon any ordinary occasion.

Talking of management of theatres and other institutions reminds me of an occurrence which exemplifies another fact. You will remember that the Duke de Montigny married, not long since, the Princess Anna Murat; unhappily that union has turned out badly; the affair is in everybody's mouth and yet not one single newspaper has recorded the fact except in the most vague manner; of course the silence that some people desire the Duke tried to murder his wife, who has however appeared with her father in public since. The marriage was arranged at court and great éclat given to it; the incident will therefore be extremely disagreeable in high quarters. Of course the case will be tried secretly, and nothing known publicly but the result.

The news from Italy is rather strange. Mazzini was elected as deputy for Messina, but his election has been quashed by the chamber of deputies; there was however a vigorous opposition to the measure, the numbers being 191 against 107 and 4 abstentions. It is a pity the majority was not the other way; does the chamber fear Mazzini? I believe he would have been much less harmless there in full day light than in his London lodgings, and it would have been a good deal for the Italian government to have left his election unnoticed.

The Subscription for the National Debt goes bravely on, and is said to have reached eight or ten millions of francs. Prince Couza has come home here, for he always had a house in Paris, and was far more at home there than in Bucharest. He and the Princess left the seat of their late royal difficulties with cigars in their mouth and little appearance of regret and when an hotel keeper asked him perfectly respectfully, "I met them at *Wanlock*." Little is required good memories; surely inventors want a little knowledge to avoid being absurd.

#### AUSTRALIAN TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

##### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide March 27th.

Parliament was prorogued on the 16th instant, the Ministry having got through all the business they promised. In consequence of Captain Hart, the

Chief Secretary (who leaves by this mail for England), having resigned his office, the Ministry is broken up. The Governor has entrusted Mr. Boucatt, the Attorney-General, with the work of forming a new Ministry.

A Batavia Company propose the establishment of new lines of steamers for Java to Sydney via Perth, Adelaide, and Melbourne, and from Java to Brisbane via Cape York.

The immigration to Port Adelaide to March 17 has been 1,249; emigration, 1,101. The cereal exports to March 17 (outports included) amount to £201,048 4s. 6d. The Customs receipts to March 17 (outports included) were £36,262 10s. 8d. The imports and exports at Port Adelaide only to March 17 are—imports, £560,157; exports, £584,771.

Arrivals—Prospero, from Foochow.

#### VICTORIA.

The political situation is more complicated than ever. The Legislative Council rejected the Tariff Bill by a majority of 20 to 8, whereupon the Ministry resigned. The Governor communicated by writing with Mr. Fellows, asking him to endeavour to form a Government. Mr. Fellows declined in favour of Mr. Embling, who failed. The former gentleman then agreed to undertake the task if the late Ministry would provide for the present expenses of the Government. After taking some trouble Mr. Fellows has failed, and the state of things at present is full of confusion.

The publisher of the *Argus*, Mr. Hugh George, has been summoned to the bar of the House for a libel on the Chief Secretary contained in that paper. Mr. George was refused the privilege of being defended by counsel, and was committed to a damp cell, where he has remained several days to the serious injury of his health.

#### NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Treasurer's financial statement is the most satisfactory of any made for years past. He considers the question of taxation is settled for some time. He expects the credit balance at the end of the financial year to amount to nearly £30,000 for the Panama mail contract.

The Panama postal service commences from Sydney, June 15; from Southampton, June 24, and from Panama, June 24. There has been a fight between the Europeans and Chinese diggers at Bathurst. There were about 100 persons on each side; the Chinese using pointed saplings, the Europeans sticks and stones. The fight lasted some time. The Chinese afterwards waited on the Commissioner, who settled the dispute. The Europeans were the aggressors, and the Chinese were reinstated. Matters are tranquil.

A terrific nitro-glycerine explosion occurred at Mulliston & Black's, Bridge-street. Not a vestige of their stores is remaining; every window in the street was blown in. Whole shop fronts of the buildings adjoining were thrown out of the perpendicular. Up and down George and Pitt streets the glass has gone like dust over the streets and shop fronts. Mulliston's papers, accounts, &c., were found on Church Hill. Their damage is expected to exceed £20,000. The clocks in the neighbourhood stopped, and the explosion was heard miles out of town.

The Batavian Chamber of Commerce have sent to the Sydney Exchange samples of all the products of the island, with the view of creating more intimate business relations with Australia.

Authentic advice states that the Home Government have decided on rendering Sydney sovereigns current throughout the British Empire.

#### QUEENSLAND.

The Brisbane Government has issued a proclamation to prevent civil servants contributing to newspapers under pain of dismissal.

The Minister of works intends pushing on the railway works. Be-Be, an aboriginal, and the principal of Dawson and Fraser's murders, has been captured by the police at Mraawa.

#### TASMANIA.

The *Sydney Morning Herald's* Auckland Correspondent says:—"General Chute's late march across the country has not effected as much good as was at first expected. He merely covered and scattered the rebels, who afterwards collected together again. The destruction of crops, &c., fall as heavily on the friendly tribes as on the rebels."

The heavy blow thus dealt on these friendly tribes has caused them to go over to the rebels; and the Wanganui settlers have sent an urgent petition against the withdrawal of the troops. Nothing seems likely to restore thorough peace unless the occupation of the country by military settlers.

Disturbances also threaten at Tauranga, where the natives, though conquered, and the fields of their confiscated land restored to them, now refuse to part with the other fourth, notwithstanding its formal cession to the Government.

The head-quarters of the 68th Regiment arrived at Auckland to embark for England. The 40th is to leave early in May.

Matters on the East Coast are very quiet. Colonel Lyons had taken possession of the rebels' strongest position at Opitiki, and put the rebels to flight. The rebels are now gathering in the neighbourhood of the authority of friendly natives, that the war is not over. Three several parties of rebels were hanging about along the coast recently, and attempted to lay several ambushes. To Mr. the great high priest of the Pal Marire, is in custody at Wellington. Several rebels have submitted.

#### LATEST INDIAN NEWS.

(From the Penang Argus.)

Calcutta.—Precis of Indian news extracted from the *Friend of India*:—His Excellency the Viceroy accompanied by his personal staff has left for Simla. In a special Gazette the Governor General in Council has notified that the Council shall, until further notice, assemble at Simla. He was conducted by the Chief Secretary to the Council Chamber in the Fort and took the oath of office under the usual salute. The usual honours were continued to Sir V. Dunsford who left by the steamer for Suez the day after. Sir Gaspard Le Marchant would seem to have offended the Madras Army by an order declaring that whenever an Officer appears in uniform, he must wear his sword. The Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab has represented to the Supreme Government the necessity for special legislation whereby would be assassinated of Europeans may be speedily brought to justice. There has been another slight outbreak on

the North-West frontier, but it has been repressed with severe loss to the tribes who plundered several villages and wounded many of the inhabitants. They have been ordered to pay an indemnity for the injuries done. The Bhootan Field Force has been broken up. Tongso Penlow has expelled from his durbar, Nidraam Singh, the old mutineer, who has hitherto been his favorite adviser. Owing to the state of affairs in the Persian Gulf the mail steamers from Bombay to their ports will, for the present, proceed via Kurrachee. This arrangement gives Kurrachee regular weekly steam communication with Bombay. All the Christians in Muscat have left the place and sought protection on board the "Benicene." The Hindu traders from Sindh, Cutch, Bombay and other parts of India are also moving away as fast as they can. The two armed vessels of Muscat are not equal at a contest with the batteries that protect the town. The disturbances near Aden have again broken out. It is feared that the "Lyra" might bombard the only remaining town of the tribe, Shingra. The Peninsular and Oriental Company are about to transfer the Indian lines. The "Mongolia" is a new screw steamer of 2,799 tons and 500 horse power. Two new steamers of half her size, the "Geelong" and "Avoca" are to be sent to India. The Government of Saigon has chartered a steamer to run from that Colony to Singapore, calling at Port Condore to catch the English mail leaving Singapore on the 21st of each month. It will leave again for Saigon on the arrival of the mail from England on the 28th of the month. The number of wild beasts destroyed in the central provinces during the half year ending last December was 697, of which 184 were Tigers; against 500 in the corresponding period of 1865. The rewards given amounted to Rs. 12,000. Government intends to re-establish a flotilla of armed steamers on the Indus. The steamer "Kwangtung" which was one of the Anglo-Chinese squadron, has been purchased by the Bengal Government. The prospects of the Ceylon Coffee are very good.

From the same paper we quote:—"The Australian Colonies are indignant at the renewal of the P. & O. Company's contract. The *Age* says—"The P. & O. people actually take umbrage at the threat of our Government to terminate the contract. They complain of the discourteous tone of Mr. McCulloch's remarks, and have a considerable impudence tell us that the mail service is particularly well done. The breaks down and delays of the past six months of the year were only known then, and we are assured that they arose from causes purely exceptional. First the "Bombay" broke her shaft, then the "Madras" then *vice versa*. But nothing is said of the "Northam's" worn-out boilers, the "Feddos" unseaworthiness, or the "Elly" increasing delay. The fact is that the service is particularly well done. The breaks down and delays of the past six months of the year were only known then, and we are assured that they arose from causes purely exceptional. 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## Shipping Intelligence.

## Shipping in China Waters.

RIVER STEAMERS.  
HONGKONG, MACAO AND CANTON.

## ARRIVALS.

Date	Vessel, at	Flag	Tons	Captain	From	Departure	Cargo	Consignees or Agents
May 1	H. Kong.	B. str.	800	Baker	Fuchuan, &c.	May 1	Sundries	P. and O. S. N. Co.
2	Acad.	B. str.	417	Denick	Manila	Apr. 25	Timber	Wm. Pustau and Co.
3	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Apr. 25	Timber	Wm. Pustau and Co.
4	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Apr. 25	Timber	Wm. Pustau and Co.
5	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Apr. 25	Timber	Wm. Pustau and Co.
6	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Apr. 25	Timber	Wm. Pustau and Co.
7	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Apr. 25	Timber	Wm. Pustau and Co.
8	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Apr. 25	Timber	Wm. Pustau and Co.
9	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Apr. 25	Timber	Wm. Pustau and Co.
10	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Apr. 25	Timber	Wm. Pustau and Co.

## PASSENGERS.

Per Acad.—Messrs Dodd and Lemine, and 12 Chinese.  
 Per Peking.—Messrs Mody, Skinfeld, Gabor, Sharp, Middleton, Bragg, and Arnold.  
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## DEPARTURES.

Date	Vessel, from	Flag	Tons	Captain	Destination	Cargo	Departed by
May 1	H. Kong.	B. str.	800	Baker	Fuchuan, &c.	Sundries	A. Scott and Co.
2	Acad.	B. str.	417	Denick	Manila	Timber	Gibbs, Livingston & Co.
3	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Timber	D. Laprak
4	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Timber	D. Laprak
5	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Timber	D. Laprak
6	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Timber	D. Laprak
7	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Timber	D. Laprak
8	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Timber	D. Laprak
9	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Timber	D. Laprak
10	Peking	B. str.	144	Hudson	Manila	Timber	D. Laprak

## PASSENGERS.

Per Acad.—Mr and Mrs Walker and 2 children, Mr and Mrs Mackay, Mr and Mrs Morris, Miss Firth, Captain Hector and Cates, Messrs F. Russell, Leyner, Moore, Holbin, Birdseye, E. Farquhar, Butler, Mours, Brand, V. Lavoisier, and Wyatt, Mr and Mrs Underwood.  
 Per Acad.—Messrs Goddard, Carber, Hogg, Newbury, Sharp, Lay, Smith, and Telge.  
 Per Acad.—Mr and Mrs Gryn, Messrs Newman, Shofield, Miller, Fussell, Lyons, Grimer, Keilmann, Field, Lamb, and Robertson.

## H. B. M. SHIPS IN THE CHINA SQUADRON.

Name	Rig.	Gun.	H.P.	Captain	Where at.
Acorn	Store ship	—	—	Jno. R. Ryan (Master)	Shanghai
Adventure	Store ship	—	—	C. L. Waddilove	Japan
Albatross	Store ship	—	—	Lieut. Rucker	Chefoo
Argus	Store ship	—	—	Comr. J. R. R. R.	Japan
Banister	Store ship	—	—	Lieut. Tonkin	Singapore
Barrac	Store ship	—	—	Capt. Boys	Shanghai
Basilisk	Store ship	—	—	W. N. W. Hewitt V.C.	Hongkong
Bonnet	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Bowdler	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Cockatrice	Store ship	—	—	Lieut. Macquy	Japan
Comorant	Store ship	—	—	Lieut. J. M. Dayrell	Nippo
Coquette	Store ship	—	—	Comr. A. G. R. Roe	Singapore
Coromandel	Store ship	—	—	150 J. S. Compton	Hongkong
Dave	Store ship	—	—	60 J. W. Reed	Surf. China sea
Drake	Store ship	—	—	40 Lt. Hunt	Surf. China sea
Firm	Store ship	—	—	60 Lieut. Eaton	Hongkong
Flamer	Store ship	—	—	60 Lieut. J. C. Stokes	Swatow
Forester	Store ship	—	—	60 Lieut. J. C. Patterson	Kuikiang
Grasshopper	Store ship	—	—	60 Lieut. Morice	Sentow
Hardy	Store ship	—	—	60 Lieut. Mainwaring	Foochow
Harriet	Store ship	—	—	60 Lieut. Lund	Hongkong
Heper	Store ship	—	—	150 Staff Com. Thain	Sailed for Amoy
Insolent	Store ship	—	—	60 Lieut. G. T. Nicolas	Chefoo
Janus	Store ship	—	—	60 Lieut. Stokes	Hongkong
Leven, Steam Ordinary	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Manila	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Melville, Naval Hospital	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Opussum, Tender to H. M. S. Princess	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Charlotte	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Clary	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Paloma	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Perseus	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Princess Charlotte	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Princess Royal, Bearing the flag of Vice Admiral Geo. St. Vincent King, C.B.	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Hatfield	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Riffling	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Savilla	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Serpent	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Shiny	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Starling, Steam Ordinary	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Staunch, Steam Ordinary	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Watchful, Steam Ordinary	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong
Woodcock, Steam Ordinary	Store ship	—	—	—	Hongkong

## HONGKONG.

C. on Padda's Wharf—W.C., from Padda's Wharf to Gibbs Wharf—W. Westward of Gibbs Wharf—E.C., from Padda's Wharf to the Military Hospital—E. Eastward of the Hospital—K. on Kowloon side.

SHIP'S NAME	CAPTAIN	FLAG	TONS	DATE OF ARRIVAL	CONSIGNEES OR AGENTS	DESTINATION	INTERESTED PARTIES
Achilles	W. Bulling	am. bk.	279	May 2	R. Schellhas and Co	Manila	to day
Alice Mary	W. Cric	am. bk.	247	May 2	W. C. P. Lota	Manila	to day
Amoy	W. Cric	am. bk.	247	May 2	W. C. P. Lota	Manila	to day
Amoy	W. Cric	am. bk.	247	May 2	W. C. P. Lota	Manila	to day
Amoy	W. Cric	am. bk.	247	May 2	W. C. P. Lota	Manila	to day
Amoy	W. Cric	am. bk.	247	May 2	W. C. P. Lota	Manila	to day
Amoy	W. Cric	am. bk.	247	May 2	W. C. P. Lota	Manila	to day
Amoy	W. Cric	am. bk.	247	May 2	W. C. P. Lota	Manila	to day
Amoy	W. Cric	am. bk.	247	May 2	W. C. P. Lota	Manila	to day
Amoy	W. Cric	am. bk.	247	May 2	W. C. P. Lota	Manila	to day

## WHAMPOA.

SHIP'S NAME	CAPTAIN	FLAG	TONS	DATE OF ARRIVAL	CONSIGNEES OR AGENTS	DESTINATION	INTERESTED PARTIES
Ann Lucy	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Bellied Will	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Caroline	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Caroline	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Caroline	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Caroline	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Caroline	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Caroline	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Caroline	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Caroline	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day

## MACAO.

SHIP'S NAME	CAPTAIN	FLAG	TONS	DATE OF ARRIVAL	CONSIGNEES OR AGENTS	DESTINATION	INTERESTED PARTIES
Amora	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Amora	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Amora	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Amora	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Amora	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Amora	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Amora	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Amora	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Amora	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Amora	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day

## FUHCHAU.

SHIP'S NAME	CAPTAIN	FLAG	TONS	DATE OF ARRIVAL	CONSIGNEES OR AGENTS	DESTINATION	INTERESTED PARTIES
Adelina	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Adelina	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Adelina	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Adelina	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Adelina	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Adelina	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Adelina	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Adelina	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Adelina	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day
Adelina	Wade	am. bk.	270	Apr. 30	Augustine Heard & Co	Manila	to day

## EXPORT OF TEA AND RAW SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

SEASON 1865-66, 1st JUNE to 14th APRIL, 1866.

CANTON.				SHANGHAE.			
JUNE.	Ten lbs.	Silk lbs.		JUNE.	Ten lbs.	Silk lbs.	
Chalgrove,	299,600			Fire Queen,	933,800		
Pakwan,	1,169,400			William Melbush,	687,600		
Behar,		2,883		Eliza Shaw,	946,800		
Imperial,		4,086		Silver Eagle,	1,126,300		
Ottawa,		5,901		Guinevere,	864,800		
JULY.				Challenger, (from H. kow),	848,900		
Rangoon,		4,715		Iales of the South, (do.),	1,032,900		
Tigre,		5,768		AUGUST.			
Northfleet,	1,087,000			Gossamer,	950,400		
Valdivia,	440,700			Highflyer,	1,181,400		
Carnatic,		4,235		Edith,	999,000		
AUGUST.				Elizabeth Nicholson,	1,132,800		
Scawell,	869,300			Golden Spur,	746,800		
Mary Nicholson,	692,700			Pegasus, (from Hankow),	612,400		
Constance,	290,900			Weymouth, do.,	1,095,600		
Donnai,		4,280		ELAN RODGER,			
Behar,		2,077		John Lidgett,	805,900		
SEPTEMBER.				Star of China,	868,500		
Scawell, (from Hongkong),	85,900			Norwood,	1,018,300		
Herold,	667,000			Hoang Ho, (from Hankow),	872,300		
Veronica,	419,200			Dunkeld,	678,500		
Orion,		2,643		Red Deer,	937,500		
Alphes,		1,389		Burnswark,	819,500		
Ganges,		1,206		Kelso,	731,800		
OCTOBER.				Neville, (from Hankow),	818,500		
Baroda,		6,210		Phillip Nelson, (do.),	550,000		
Cambridge,		735		SEPTEMBER.			
Yaridilla,	607,100			Art Union,	836,350		
Tamerlane,	589,200			Statesman,	909,600		
Yaridilla, (from Macao),	419,300			Garnawal, (lost Oct. 1)			
Tamerlane, do.	326,500			Iron Crown, (from H'kow),	1,081,400		
NOVEMBER.				ECOTONA,			
Emson,		1,584		Dartmouth,	1,130,800		
Spiank,	525,400			Glenangri,	1,067,100		
Annie Archbell,	857,300			Lord Clyde,	627,700		
Santon,	692,900			Palmsea,	773,600		
Strifling's,	647,000			St. And.'s Castle, (fr. H'kow),	868,200		
Benares,		1,807		Patna,	369,400		
Imperial,		1,569		Wild Deer,	1,344,200		
December.				Queen of the Ocean,	908,400		
Salute,	1,306			Ensign,	575,100		
Singapore,	1,109			Emperor, (from Kiukiang),	449,200		
Tigre,	980			NOVEMBER.			
JANUARY.				Helen Nicholson,	885,400		
Ottawa,		1,258		Prince Alfred,	923,600		
James Russell,	975,200			Robin Hood,	1,278,300		
Jeddo,		1,415		Whitehall,	1,058,900		
Donnai,		697		Invincible,	860,800		
Mountain Ash,	579,000			Horax,	944,400		
February.				DECEMBER.			
Emson,	267,800			Glencee,	959,500		
Victoria,	981,600			City of Quebec,	845,500		
Queen of the Age,	104,300			Helen Finlayson,	495,400		
Victoria, (from Macao),	1,111			Earl Dullhouse,	1,186,500		
Benares,	367			Patrician,	1,486,200		
Alphes,	267			JANUARY.			
Baroda,	338			Rajah of Cochin,	1,165,800		
Cambridge,	489			Petchelee,	429,900		
Fort Regent,	581,200			Peter Denny,	1,243,700		
April.				February.			
Ottawa,	487			James Shepherd,	895,100		
June.				March.			
Fiery Cross,	950,400			Jubilee,	861,600		
Serica,	1,009,600						
Yangtze,	959,800						
Ziba,	649,600						
Children, (lost)	884,600						
Flying Spur,	1,036,800						
Black Prince,	1,009,600						
Belted Will,	392,400						
Chalgrove,	860,400						
Min,	891,500						
Young Lochinvar,	707,700						
City of Aberdeen,	1,093,700						
Taeeping,	1,262,100						
JULY.	1,043,100						
Lauderdale,	856,600						
Lorton,	524,100						
Devand,	553,000						
Bella,	726,800						
Dunmail,	882,200						
AUGUST.	724,700						
Chas-Sze,	855,700						
Lorton,	1,048,100						
Bengal,	916,700						
Everest,	746,200						
Areta,	623,700						
Whinfell,	1,067,500						
Queen Bee,	1,326,200						
William Mitchell,	1,123,300						
Thurso,	650,500						
Fiwan,							
SEPTEMBER.							
Berwickshire,							
Agra,							
Aurora Australis,							
OCTOBER.							
Manfred,							
St. Dunstan,							
Merce,							
Cannara,							
Caractacus,							
Lord Macaulay,							
Banian,							
Esperanza,							
NOVEMBER.							
Alexandrina,							
Bermah,							
Corsa,							
DECEMBER.							
Portland,							
Jeannette,							
Lammermoir,							
Bacchante,							
Cambalu,							
Assyrian,							
Albura,							
JANUARY.							
Ocean Spray,							
Adelina,							
Dilkooah,							